

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (Currently Amended): A steering apparatus comprising:

a steering drive shaft capable of moving in an axial direction ~~right and left directions of a car body~~ in response to a steering operation;

a housing accommodating the steering drive shaft and having a ~~metal~~ tube part; and

a bracket having a fitting hole into which said ~~metal~~ tube part is fitted and attaching said housing to ~~a the~~ car body, ~~characterized in that~~

wherein said bracket has a recess in said fitting hole~~[[,]]~~ and said ~~metal~~ tube part has an escape preventing protrusion bent into said recess.

Claim 2 (Original): The steering apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said recess is a circular groove.

Claim 3 (Currently Amended): ~~The A method of manufacturing a steering apparatus according to claim 1, wherein provided with a steering drive shaft capable of moving in right and left directions of a car body in response to a steering operation and with a housing accommodating the steering drive shaft and having a metal tube part, characterized by comprising:~~

—— a fitting step of fitting said metal tube part is metal into a fitting hole of a bracket provided with said fitting hole into which said metal tube part is fitted and which has a recess in an inner side thereof, and with an attached part attached to the car body; and

—— a step of pressing said metal tube part outward in a radial direction from an inner side of the metal tube part after the fitting step, and thereby bending a part of said metal tube part into said recess.

Claim 4 (new): A method of manufacturing a steering apparatus provided with a steering drive shaft capable of moving in an axial direction in response to a steering operation and with a housing accommodating the steering drive shaft and having a metal tube part, characterized by comprising:

a fitting step of fitting said metal tube part into a fitting hole of a bracket provided with said fitting hole into which said metal tube part is fitted and which has a recess in an inner side thereof, and with an attached part attached to the car body; and

a step of pressing said metal tube part outward in a radial direction from an inner side of the metal tube part after the fitting step, and thereby bending a part of said metal tube part into said recess.